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Decisions adopted by the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries at its twelfth session

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Decisions of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries at its twelfth session

12/1 Review of progress made in implementing technical cooperation among developing countries

A. Review of progress made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and the decisions of the High-level Committee

The High-level Committee,

Reaffirming the validity and continued relevance of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 52/205 of 18 December 1997, 53/192 of 15 December 1998 and 54/226 of 22 December 1999, relating to economic and technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC),

Recalling the Millennium Declaration adopted in September 2000,

Taking note of the Programme of Action and the Declaration of the South Summit adopted in Havana on 14 April 2000, which specifically emphasized the increased relevance and importance of South-South cooperation,

Recognizing the complementary role that TCDC plays in promoting the integration of developing countries in the global economy,

Noting that the effective functioning of national TCDC focal points and the full utilization of the TCDC modality, require, inter alia, adequate financial and human resources and international support and recognizing that TCDC progress is primarily dependent on the commitment of Governments concerned,

Having considered the reports prepared by the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries within the United Nations Development Programme,[1]

1. *Recognizes* that the operational activities for development of the United Nations system should enhance support for South-South cooperation;

2. *Encourages* developing countries, that have not already done so, to put in place a well-articulated national TCDC policy, including a clear delineation of the role of the TCDC focal point, as part of their development programmes and strategies;

3. *Requests* the Special Unit for TCDC, in order to facilitate and ensure greater understanding of the TCDC modality, to organize subregional orientation workshops for national and United Nations agency TCDC focal points in collaboration with the respective regional commissions and other relevant organizations and institutions;

[1] TCDC/12/1, TCDC/12/2 and TCDC/12/3.

connectivity and use of information and communication technology, as well as to establish home pages in the Internet;

12. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Special Unit in promoting South-South knowledge-sharing through compilation and dissemination of successful practices in developing countries in areas such as social development, economic development, protection of environment and science and technology, and encourages the Special Unit to continue with and enhance such efforts;

B. Review of progress made in the implementation of the new directions strategy for technical cooperation among developing countries

The High-level Committee,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 50/119 of 20 December 1995, 52/205 of 18 December 1997, 54/226 of 22 December 1999, as well as the related resolutions of the Economic and Social Council on economic cooperation among developing countries and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Recalling its decisions 9/2 of 2 June 1995, 10/1 B of 9 May 1997 and 11/1 B of 4 June 1999 on the "Review of progress made in the implementation of the new directions strategy for technical cooperation among developing countries" and *reaffirming* the continued relevance and validity of the new directions for technical cooperation among developing countries,

Stressing that South-South cooperation, including technical and economic cooperation among developing countries, represents a viable strategy for developing countries to pursue individually and collectively sustained economic growth and sustainable development and to ensure their participation in the newly emerging global economic system,

1. *Notes* with appreciation that a growing number of developing countries, especially pivotal countries and Southern centres of excellence, are initiating and sponsoring technical and economic cooperation among developing countries activities designed to benefit large numbers of developing countries;

2. *Notes* further with satisfaction the increase in developed countries support to technical and economic cooperation among developing countries including through triangular arrangements and, in this context, *encourages* developing countries, regional and subregional institutions and centres of excellence, in collaboration with the Special Unit, to draw lessons from past experiences in triangular cooperation and design innovative South-South cooperation programmes, with a view to enabling greater participation by donor countries in such programmes;

3. *Welcomes* the financial contributions made by some developed and developing countries to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation and to South-South triangular cooperation initiatives catalysed or managed by the Special Unit, and *urges* other developed and developing countries that have the capacity to contribute to do so to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation and the Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund for

Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, taking into account the main objectives of promoting development and poverty eradication;

4. *Requests* the organizations and agencies of the United Nations development system, including regional commissions and other relevant multilateral institutions, to take further concrete measures to systematically integrate the use of the modalities of technical and economic cooperation among developing countries into their regular cooperation programmes in line with the new directions strategy with a view to support their effective implementation;

5. *Encourages* the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, in collaboration with the organizations and agencies of the United Nations development system, including regional commissions, to document and disseminate innovative and successful practices of technical and economic cooperation among developing countries, including triangular cooperation arrangements and those supported by the organizations and agencies of the United Nations development system;

6. *Welcomes* the strategic orientation and programme focus of the second technical cooperation among developing countries framework 2001-2003,[2] and *requests* developed and developing countries, relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, the organizations and agencies of the United Nations development system, the private sector and other interested partners to enhance their financial support to the Special Unit in the implementation of the framework;

7. *Notes further* with satisfaction the establishment of national technical cooperation among developing countries web sites in a number of developing countries and, in this regard, *encourages* these countries and other development partners, including the donor countries, to assist other developing countries, especially the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, transit developing countries and small island developing States in establishing similar web sites as well as the necessary infrastructure in order to bridge the digital divide between developed and developing countries and among developing countries;

8. *Requests* the Special Unit for TCDC to assist in documenting and disseminating the special problems and needs of the least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries through WIDE, with a view to providing a platform for the international development community to help address such special problems and needs of these countries taking into account the concerns of transit developing countries;

9. *Urges* developed and developing countries, the organizations and agencies of the United Nations development system, including regional commissions as well as developing partners, in the context of the expansion of TCDC and ECDC modalities, to intensify their efforts to support South-South initiatives designed to benefit especially the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, transit developing countries and small island developing States with a view to expanding their intra-trade and intra-investment opportunities and achieving sustainable development and more equitable integration into the global economy;

[2] DP/CF/TCDC/2.

10. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to submit a comprehensive report to the High-level Committee at its thirteenth session on progress made in the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the new directions strategy for technical cooperation among developing countries, and on the implementation of the present decision, parts A and B.

12/2 Overall framework for the promotion and application of technical cooperation among developing countries

The High-level Committee,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 52/205 of 18 December 1997, 53/192 of 15 December 1998 and 54/226 of 22 December 1999 relating to economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Taking note of paragraph 9 of decision 11/1 B of the High-level Committee pertaining to the management and use of the Trust Fund for South-South Cooperation,

Also noting paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of decision 11/2 of the High-level Committee on, inter alia, Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures concerning TCDC,

Further noting the reports of the Administrator of UNDP to the twelfth session of the High-level Committee,

1. *Decides* to review the revised Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures concerning Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, as approved by the Administrative Committee on Coordination, and common results framework at its thirteenth session in 2003;

2. *Notes* the need for the Special Unit for TCDC to heighten the awareness of the development community on the Voluntary Trust Fund for South-South Cooperation so as to attract greater volumes of resources from interested partners and further urges the Administrator of UNDP to take the necessary action to further mobilize resources for TCDC into the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation. In this context, the Special Unit for TCDC should develop a clear system on the management and use of the resources in the Trust Fund;

3. *Welcomes* the emphasis on the promotion of South-South cooperation in the Administrator's Business Plan, and, in this context, urges the Administrator of UNDP to promote the effectiveness of the TCDC focal point mechanism, especially at the regional level, and at the country level through the Resident Coordinator system;

4. *Calls upon* UNDP and other parts of the United Nations development system to intensify TCDC mainstreaming efforts, by using national planning mechanisms as well as relevant agreed regional and international mechanisms;

5. *Underscores* the need to ensure an effective role of the Special Unit for TCDC as the substantive secretariat of the High-level Committee and as the United Nations system coordinator for TCDC as well as the focal point in the United Nations system for South-South cooperation and to this effect, requests the

Administrator of UNDP to ensure that the separate identity of the Special Unit within UNDP is maintained, and decides to review periodically the impact and functioning of the Special Unit in supporting, promoting and coordinating TCDC cooperation on a global and system-wide basis;

6. *Takes note* of decision 2001/2 of the UNDP Executive Board which requests the Administrator of UNDP to consider reviewing, in the context of the successor programming arrangements, the allocation of additional resources for activities involving technical cooperation among developing countries, taking into account the overall financial situation and the need for appropriate resources for other activities;

7. *Reiterates* the need for increasing core resources of UNDP, which will also raise the volume of resources available for the Special Unit for promoting TCDC activities;

8. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 53/192 of 15 December 1998, in paragraph 43 of which the Assembly requested the executive boards of the funds and programmes to review, with a view to considering an increase, the allocation of resources for activities involving technical cooperation among developing countries;

9. *Requests* the Administrator of UNDP to report on the implementation of this decision to the High-level Committee at its thirteenth session.

12/3 Provisional agenda for the thirteenth session of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries

The High-level Committee,

Taking into account the views expressed at its twelfth session,

1. *Approves* the following provisional agenda for its thirteenth session, to be held in 2003:

1. Opening of the session.

2. Review of progress made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the new directions strategy for technical cooperation among developing countries, and the decisions of the High-level Committee.

3. Consideration of reports of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme:

(a) Implementation of the guidelines for the review of policies and procedures by the United Nations development system concerning technical cooperation among developing countries;

(b) Organizational and supportive arrangements for technical cooperation among developing countries (such as administrative, legal, informational and financial arrangements).

4. **Thematic discussion (theme to be decided on the basis of consultations that will be undertaken with Member States by the President of the High-level Committee).**

5. **Review the revised Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures concerning Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, as approved by the Administrative Committee on Coordination, and common results framework.**

6. **Adoption of the report of the Working Group.**

7. **Approval of the provisional agenda for the fourteenth session of the High-level Committee.**

8. **Other matters.**

9. **Adoption of the report of the High-level Committee on its thirteenth session.**